for nurses has been approved for construction at Srinivaspuri at a cost of Rs. 18 crores.

(c) No action was taken untler the Provisions of ESMA in the Govt. Hospitals.

(d) There were six strikes in Govt. Hospitals during the last one year by 'C' and 'D' group employees. There was no loss of human life as a result of the strikes.

(e) As per information available, nurses from some neighbouring States expressed their support to the striking nurses in Delhi.

Non-Acceptance of Fixed Rates in CGHS/ CSMA Hospitals in Pune

326. PROF. RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to sstate:

(a) whether Government have received a complaint from the Bhartiya Mazdoor Sangh, Pune, that the rates for medical treatment fixed by Government for hospitals under CGHS/ CSMA are not accepted by the hospitals in Pune;

(b) if so, the action taken by Government; and

(c) what are the reasons for non-acceptance of these rates by CGHS hospitals in Pune?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The private Hospitals recognised under CGHS and CS(MA) Rules, 1944, in Pune are not accepting the rates for different medical procedures/ tests approved by the Government, as they are of the view that these rates are lower than the rates prevailing in the market, which have increased due to inflation and other parameters.

Non-availability of Qualified Doctors in Villages

327. SHRI KULDIP NAYYAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have conducted any survey to find out the number of villages in the country, where the services of qualified doctors are not available, if so, the number of villages as on 30th April, 1998;

(b) whether Government have a proposal under consideration to allow registration of medical graduates only after they have served in villages for a minimum period of five years; if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when, this will be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI): (a) No Sir.

(b) and (c) At present there is no such proposal under consideration as the Medical Council of India has not agreed to an earlier suggestion for registration of medical graduates only after they have served in rural areas for minimum period.

Recognition of B.D.S. Degree of Shivaji University

328. SHRI PARAG CHALIHA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recognition of B.D.S. degree of Shivaji University, Kolhapur has not yet been approved by his Ministry; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Law Ministry to whom the requisite draft notification of recognition of B.D.S. degree of Shivaji University was sent for vetting, has advised that some of the students have since filed W.P. No. 4657/97 in the Bombay High Court, and as such the matter is sub-judice and hence no opinion can be expressed by them at this stage. The date from which the degree is to be recognised is under examination. The copy of the order of the High Court is being obtained.

Steps to check Multi-faceted Illness in Safdarjung Hospital

329. SHRI PARAG CHALIHA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state the details of